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RURAL DISTRICT OF BRACKLEY

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the

Year 1947

David J. Jones

To the Chairman and Councillors of the Rural District of Brackley.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the District for the year 1947.

The vital statistics can be regarded as satisfactory. The birth rate of 20.44 is almost the same as that for England and Wales, namely 20.5, but shows a decrease of 2.06 from the rate for 1946. The death rate of 16.28 compares unfavourably with that of 1946, *viz.*, 11.13, but this is largely explained by the extreme severity of the weather during the early months of the year, during which many of the older residents of the district succumbed. The infant mortality rate again shows an increase over the previous year, being 48.13 for 1947, and compares unfavourably with the rate of 41 for England and Wales.

The estimated mid year population was 9,150, which is an increase of 70 over that of 1946.

Sanitary circumstances have shown no great advance during 1947, although it is hoped that schemes proposed may be well advanced before the end of this year.

The housing programme continues—all too slowly for the needs of the district. During the year the number of new dwellings completed was 30. Bearing in mind the number of unfit houses found during the Rural Housing Survey, the needs of the area will not be met for many years.

I wish to convey to Mr. Turbitt and his Staff my thanks for their invaluable assistance throughout the year, and in the preparation of much of the details of this report.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

DAVID J. JONES,
Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Dept.,
Rural District Council Offices,
Brackley, Northants.
September, 1948.

Brackley Rural District Council

Chairman of the Council :

F. T. Kieldsen, Esq., J.P.

Vice Chairman of the Council :

J. N. Gibbard, Esq.

Members of the Public Health Committee :

Messrs. J. N. Gibbard (Chairman), E. H. Barker, H. S. Watson, G. L. Fenemore, R. Barrett, G. W. Wood, L. Watson, T. Cottrell-Dormer, Rev. H. J. Boyd (Vice-Chairman), Lt. Gen. Sir. B. N. Sergison-Brooke, Mrs. M. E. Johnson, Mrs. L. Acrid.

The Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Council are ex-officio members of the Health Committee.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority :

Medical Officer of Health,

David J. Jones, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Also holds appointments of

Medical Officer of Health in the Brackley Borough.
Medical Officer of Health in the Daventry Borough.
Medical Officer of Health in the Daventry R.D.C.
Medical Officer of Health in the Brixworth R.D.C.
Assistant County Medical Officer of Health, Northants County Council.
Assistant County School Medical Officer, Northants County Council.

Senior Sanitary Inspector :

W. E. Turbitt, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Sanitary Inspector :

F. Mayhew, C.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Clerk to the Sanitary Inspectors :

S. J. Sheppard.

SECTION A.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF AREA AND STATISTICS.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS, 1947.

Area in acres	58,132
Population	9,150
Number of separate dwellings, occupied, 1947...	2,907
Rateable Value, 1947	£35,618
Product of a penny rate	£139/13/1

Live Births	*Total*	*Male*	*Female*	*Rate (per 1,000 population)*
Legitimate	175	76	99	
Illegitimate	12	10	2	
				20.44
	187	86	101	

Stillbirths	*Total*	*Male*	*Female*	*Rate (per 1,000 population)*
Legitimate	2	1	1	
Illegitimate	1	—	1	
				0.32
	3	1	2	

				(per 1,000 population)
Deaths (all causes)	149	85	64	**16.28**

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

Puerperal Sepsis	*Nil.*
Other puerperal causes...	*Nil.*

Infant Mortality—per 1,000 live births.

Legitimate	**42.79**
Illegitimate	**5.34**
Total	**48.13**

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	19
,, ,, Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	*Nil.*
,, ,, Measles	*Nil.*
,, ,, Whooping Cough	*Nil*

The registered causes of death were :—

	Causes of Death	*Males*	*Females*	*Total*
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—
2.	Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—	—
3.	Scarlet Fever	—	—	—
4.	Whooping Cough	—	—	—
5.	Diphtheria	—	—	—
6.	Tuberculosis—Respiratory	1	2	3
7.	Tuberculosis—Other Forms	1	—	1
8.	Syphilitic Diseases	—	—	—
9.	Influenza	—	—	—
10.	Measles	—	—	—
11.	Acute Poliomyelitis : Polio Encephalitis ...	—	—	—
12.	Acute Infectious Encephalitis	—	—	—
13.	Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagous ...	—	—	—
14.	Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	5	2	7
15.	Cancer of Breast	—	3	3
16.	Cancer of all other sites	5	4	9
17.	Diabetes	—	—	—
18.	Intra Cranial Vascular Lesions	9	13	22
19.	Heart Disease	25	14	39
20.	Other Diseases of Circulation	4	3	7
21.	Bronchitis	5	1	6
22.	Pneumonia	3	4	7
23.	Other Respiratory Diseases	1	—	1
24.	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	—	—	—
25.	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	—	—	—
26.	Appendicitis	1	1	2
27.	Other digestive Disorders	1	2	3
28.	Nephritis	2	1	3
29.	Puerperal and Post Abortive Sepsis	—	—	—
30.	Other Maternal Causes	—	—	—
31.	Premature Birth	2	3	5
32.	Congenital Malformation : Birth Injury : Infantile Disorders	2	—	2
33.	Suicide	1	—	1
34.	Road Traffic Accidents	2	—	2
35.	Other Violent Causes	3	1	4
36.	All Other Causes	12	10	24
		85	**64**	**149**

Area (in acres 58,132). The district is almost entirely rural in character, agriculture and dairy farming being the main industries.

Population. The Registrar General has estimated the population for the mid year 1947 to be 9,150, an increase of 70 over 1946. The natural increase in population, the excess of births over deaths was 38.

Deaths. The total number of deaths assigned to the district for the year was 149, compared with 100 in 1946. The crude death rate was 16.28 compared with 11.13 the previous year. The following table has been compiled for comparison with previous years :

Death Rate 1943-47

Year	Brackley Total	M.	F.	Recorded Rate	Northampton-shire	England and Wales
1943	164	82	82	17.3	12.29	12.10
1944	195	119	76	20.5	12.65	11.60
1945	175	91	78	19.2	12.34	11.40
1946	100	46	54	11.13	12.00	11.50
1947	149	85	64	16.28	12.43	12.00

Births. The number of live births assigned to this district was 187, compared with 202 in 1946. The birth rate for 1947 of 20.44, is less by 2.06 per thousand than the rate for 1946, but is almost equal to the rate of 20.5 for England and Wales.

Birth Rate 1943-47.

	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Brackley	17.3	20.5	19.2	22.5	20.44
Northamptonshire ...	17.91	20.07	18.98	19.17	20.42
England and Wales	16.5	17.6	16.1	19.1	20.5

Still-Births. The number of still-births during 1947 was 3 (1 legitimate male, 1 legitimate female, 1 illegitimate male). The still-birth rate for the past 5 years is given in the following table (per 1,000 live and still births) :

Still-Birth Rate 1943-47

	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Brackley	12.05	10.15	22.36	19.41	15.79

Illegitimate Births. There were 22 illegitimate births assigned to the district in 1947 (12 males, 10 females) 4 less than in 1946.

Maternal Mortality. It is pleasing to note that again in 1947 there were no deaths from Puerperal Causes, or conditions allied to childbirth.

Infant Mortality. The number of infants who died before reaching their first birthday was 8 (4 male, 4 female). One male was illegitimate. The causes of death are set out in the following table :

Causes of Death of Children under one year.

Cause of Death	*Age in Weeks* —1	—2	—3	—4	5—52	*Total*
1. Congenital Malformations						
2. *Diseases of early infancy* :						
(a) Congenital Debility					1	1
(b) Premature Birth ...	4					4
(c) Injury at Birth ...						
(d) Atelectasis				1		1
(e) Others						
3. Diseases of Respiratory System					2	2
4. Diseases of Digestive System						
5. Diseases of Nervous System						
6. Tuberculous Diseases ...						
7. Infectious Diseases ...						
8. Syphilis						
9. Overlaying						
10. Other Violence						
11. All Other Causes						
Total ...	4	—	—	1	3	8

Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births.

	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Brackley	48.9	35.9	17.14	44.5	42.78
Northamptonshire ...	40.4	38.00	39.17	36.86	35.07
England and Wales ...	49.00	46.00	46.00	43.00	41.00

SECTION B.

General Provision of Health Services.

(a) LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The Public Health Laboratory Service, Oxford, examine all swabs submitted by General Practitioners in the area and have also undertaken the bacteriological examination of water samples and other specimens submitted from this district. This service became entirely free following a Ministry circular in March 1947.

Samples of milk are taken by the Sanitary Inspector and these are examined in the laboratory section of the County Health Department.

(b) DIPHTHERIA ANTITOXIN.

A supply of antitoxin is maintained at the Council Offices in accordance with the provisions of the Diphtheria Antitoxin (Outside London) Order, 1910, and is available free of charge to all Medical Practitioners for use in cases of emergency in the rural district.

(c) NURSING IN THE HOME.

Under an agreement between the County Council and the County Nursing Association, the services of a nurse may be obtained for the treatment of patients suffering from puerperal fever, puerperal pyrexia, opthalmia neonatorum, whooping cough, diarrhoea in young children, poliomyelitis, measles, and cerebro spinal fever, but owing to the acute shortage of nursing staff, it would almost be impossible to fulfil this agreement.

(d) CLINIC AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Infant Welfare—Brackley. Orthopædic Clinic. Vision Clinic.	Organised by County Council.
Ante-Natal Clinic, Middleton Cheney.	

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF DISTRICT.

STATEMENT OF POSITION AS TO SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL SCHEMES, Etc.

Parish	*No. of Houses*		*Schemes approved in principal by Ministry of Health*	
	Sewered	*Unsewered*	*Cost £*	*Stage*
Aston le Walls	36	14	4599	3
Aynho	94	24		
Boddington	103	38	7578 Upper B.	3
			6327 Lower B.	3
Chacombe	86	10	16820	1
Chipping Warden	85	17	8080	1
Croughton	105	22	17900	1
Culworth	75	56	6850	1
Edgcote (Private Estate) ...	—	18		
Evenley	64	43	3618	3
Eydon	85	34		
Farthinghoe	63	31	9502	2
Greatworth	99	26	7943	3
Helmdon	105	66	12178	1
Hinton in the Hedges ...	18	11	5016	3
Kings Sutton	293	45	11070	1 Commenced
Marston St. Lawrence ...	23	21		
Middleton Cheney	312	47	3829 Overthorpe	1 Completed
			11181 Lower M/C	2
			11148 Upper M/C	2
Moreton Pinkney ...	97	11	9096	1
Newbottle	69	35		
Radstone	16	11	2418	3
Sulgrave	61	48	11537	2
Syresham	106	84	1747 Crowfield	3
			10900 Village	2
Thenford	14	11		
Thorpe Mandeville ...	31	17		
Warkworth	6	6		
Whitfield	24	21	5636	2
Totals	2070	767	£184973	

Water Supply—As in previous years, the sampling of various water supplies in the district indicates that much of the water is bad.

The various parishes or districts where sampling took place, the number of samples taken from each parish or district, and the results of the samples are as follows, viz :—

	Total	*Satisfactory*	*Unsatisfactory*
Aynho	6	4	2
Boddington	5	1	4
Chacombe	8	1	7
Evenley	6	1	5
Eydon	2	1	1
Farthinghoe	4	—	4
Greatworth	1	—	1
Helmdon	2	2	—
Kings Sutton	7	1	6
Middleton Cheney	12	3	9
Radstone	1	1	—
Sulgrave	2	—	2
Thenford	1	—	1
Thorpe Mandeville	1	1	—
	58	16 or 27.6 %	42 or 72.4 %

Summary of Result of Water Samples taken for Bacteriological Examination.

During the past seven years much attention has been paid to the bacteriological examination of the water supplies in the various parishes, both public and private, and the following table gives a summary of these examinations.

Year	*No. of Samples taken and examined*	*Result*	
		Satisfactory	*Unsatisfactory*
1940	0	0	0
1941	15	2	13
1942	8	1	7
1943	64	20	44
1944	78	29	49
1945	63	37	26
1946	70	25	45
1947	58	16	42
TOTALS	356	130	226
			63.48% *Unsatisfactory*

Public Cleansing. A systematic collection of house refuse is in operation throughout the district.

The Parishes are served as follows :—

Village	*Date of Collection*	*Refuse Tip*
King's Sutton	Alternate Fridays	
Aynho	Alternate Fridays	
Middleton Cheney	Alternate Thursdays	
Chacombe	Second Tuesday in each month	
Chipping Warden	First Wednesday in each month	All refuse is now taken to either Moreton Pinkney or Greatworth.
Aston-le-Walls	First Monday in each month	
Boddingtons	First Monday in each month	
Eydon	Second Monday in each month	
Thenford	First Tuesday in each month	
Thorpe Mandeville	First Wednesday in each month	
Marston St. Lawrence	Second Tuesday in each month	
Culworth	First Wednesday in each month	
Moreton Pinkney	Second Monday in each month	
Greatworth	First Monday in each month	
Sulgrave	Second Wednesday in each month	
Helmdon	Second Wednesday in each month	
Radstone	Third Wednesday in each month	
Charlton	Third Tuesday in each month	
Croughton	Third Tuesday in each month	
Hinton-in-the-Hedges	First Tuesday in each month	
Evenley	First Tuesday in each month	
Whitfield	Third Wednesday in each month	
Syresham	Third Wednesday in each month	
Farthinghoe	Second Tuesday in each month	

Sanitary Inspection of the Area. A total of 186 complaints were received during the year and promptly investigated. 96 were made in writing : 39 by telephone and 51 verbally.

The Sanitary Inspectors made 4879 inspections.

131 Preliminary and 24 Statutory Notices were served. Of the number of Statutory Notices 19 were complied with during the year and it is expected that the outstanding notices will be complied with in due course.

Summary of Sanitary Inspector's Visits to Premises during 1947.

Inspections—Housing Act	1588
Notices served	—
Re-inspections	1817
Inspections—Public Health Acts	418
Notices served	82
Re-inspections	610
Verbal Notices	—
No. of complaints received	187
Food Notices Served	44
Notices complied with (including food premises)	227

Visits to :—

Slaughterhouses	18
Butchers' Shops	49
Bakehouses	36
Fishmongers	3
Cowsheds	40
Dairies and Milk Shops	59
Public Houses	76
Provision Shops	67
Greengrocers	2
Ice Cream Places	8
Dining Rooms	18
Schools	2
Piggeries	4
Infectious Diseases Enquiries	31
Public Conveniences	19
Urinals	14
Miscellaneous	—
Drains re-laid	21
Drains partly re-laid	5
Rat infested premises	11

Statement of Sanitary and Housing Work completed during the Year 1947.

Details of work completed.	*Total*
Roof renewed or repaired	69
Chimney Stack repaired or renewed	7
Gutters repaired or renewed	8
Rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	4
External walls repaired or re-pointed	25
Dampness abated :—	
i. repairs to roof	26
ii. repairs to external walls	4
iii. repairs to gutters or rainwater pipes	1
iv. waterproofing of internal walls	13
v. Damp proof course provided	—
Permanent ventilation provided	10
Wall plaster repaired	113
Ceiling plaster repaired	31
Walls cleaned or redecorated	112
Ceilings cleaned or redecorated	39
Windows repaired or renewed	10
Sashcord provided	—
Doors repaired or renewed	7
Floors repaired or renewed	18
Stairs repaired or renewed	9
Window and door sills repaired	13
Plinth provided	1
Through ventilation provided	1
Yard or passage surface paved	—
Firegrates or ranges repaired or renewed	10
New sink provided	15
New waste pipe to sink provided	15
Separate water supply provided	2
Sub-floor ventilation provided	1
Washing copper repaired or renewed	4
Wash-house rebuilt or repaired	2
Ventilated food store provided	—
Food store repaired or improved	2
Verminous rooms disinfected	9

Miscelleneous Housing items	9
Staircase handrails provided	8
Wells repaired or cleansed	3
Washing Accommodation provided	1

Sanitary Conveniences.

Elsan Closets provided	14
Separate accommodation provided	6
New W.C.'s provided complete	18
New W.C. basin provided	18
W.C. cistern repaired or renewed	6
W.C. compartment repaired	1
Closets repaired	4
Closets limewashed	2
New pails to closets	6
Closets cleansed	—
Privies Abolished	6
New Urinals built	2
Baths provided	12
Lavatory Basins	10

Drainage.

Drains examined	43
Drains cleansed	25
Drains repaired or reconstructed	43
Premises drained to sewer	9
Soil pipe or vent-shaft repaired	—
Inspection chamber provided	27
Fresh air inlet fixed	—
Vent-shaft provided	13
New gullies provided	22
Miscellaneous draining items	—
New septic tanks provided	2

Nuisances.

Offensive accumulation removed	5
Nuisance from keeping animals abated	1
Smoke nuisance abated	—
Miscellaneous nuisances abated	2
Overcrowding abated	3

Shops and Offices—No action was taken during the year.

Camping Sites—No camps were established in the district during the year.

Smoke Abatement—No action was necessary.

Swimming Baths and Pools—There are no baths or pools subject to inspection in the district.

Eradication of Bed Bugs—No action was necessary.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

Following is a detailed Report on the Rural Housing Survey which was completed during the year.

REPORT ON THE SURVEY OF HOUSING CONDITIONS

The decline in agriculture during past years and the present economic condition of the country has made it imperative that we should produce more food. This has brought into the limelight the need for better housing conditions for the agricultural workers. There is not only a demand for additional houses, but the question of improving many of those existing at the present time should also be considered.

During the war much thought was given to the housing problem, particularly in regard to rural areas, and the Government in 1942 set up a Housing Advisory Committee under the Chairmanship of Sir Arthur Hobhouse to report on rural housing. The Report of this Committee, which is comprehensive, was published by the Ministry of Health in 1944, and, *inter alia*, it was recommended that a thorough survey of the housing conditions should be carried out in every Rural District. It suggested that classification of every working class house should be made according to the standard of accommodation and amenities provided and its state of repiar. The Minister of Health stated in a circular issued to Rural Councils that he was confident this valuable document would be of great assistance to all concerned in the administration of the housing services in rural areas. It is recommended in each County to establish Joint County Committees consisting of representatives of Rural District Councils and of the County Council in their Health and Housing capacities, together with any persons experienced or interested in housing, and with representatives of Bodies interested in housing within the County whom the Committee thought fit to co-opt. This Committee was duly inaugurated and reports on suggested standards made by them have already been considered by this Council.

In order to carry out the survey an additional Sanitary Inspector was appointed in 1945.

The standard advised by the Joint County Committee on Rural Housing is as follows, and it is recommended that a house should comply with the following requirements :

1. situated on a site to which air and light have free access.
2. of sound structural repair in respect of walls, roof, floor and fittings.
3. well paved paths to front and back of house.
4. free from dampness.
5. adequate and thorough ventilation.
6. adequate natural lighting.
7. efficient drainage.
8. separate water closet or satisfactory earth closet.
9. satisfactory cooking facilities.
10. satisfactory clothes washing facilities.
11. food store, well ventilated, and of adequate size.
12. kitchen sink.
13. fixed bath.
14. handrails to stairs.
15. water supply laid on.
16. good internal arrangement, in particular, each bedroom having separate means of access.
17. adequate outbuildings (*a*) for fuel, (*b*) for other storage.
18. secondary means of access.
19. domestic hot water installation.
20. adequate artificial lighting.
21. refuse disposal.
22. decorative repair.

The object of the survey is to provide a record of the conditions of every 'working class' house in the district for a programme of improvements in rural housing conditions to be carried out over a period of years.

All the houses in the district have been included in the classification so as to show a fair and reasonable percentage of unfit properties and give a complete picture of the circumstances in the neighbourhood.

Records of overcrowding and the number of families sharing homes have not been kept as it was felt the circumstances of occupation of premises was continually changing. This is proposed to be done at a later date. The survey, up to the present time, has been of a preliminary nature and it has not been possible to obtain all the details which would be required before taking any Statutory action. Less detail was obtained during the latter part of the time as there was a desire to complete the preliminary survey as soon as possible. The classification of houses has been judged according to the standard of fitness suggested by the County Joint Committee. This does not mean that premises which have been placed in category 5 are necessarily for demolition. It is very difficult to draw a line which will, in every case, conclusively divide category 3 from category 5. If some of the properties which have been placed in category 3 were dealt with by serving Notices under Section 9 (the Repair Section) of the Housing Act, 1936, and an appeal made to

the Court, judgment may be given against the Authority because of the unreasonable cost. On the other hand because some properties have been placed in category 5 it does not necessarily mean they cannot be made fit, but the cost may be an unreasonable one. It all depends on whether the owner is prepared to stand the cost of reconditioning. If not, the Local Authority could then consider acquisition and carry out the proposal themselves. The question of what is a 'reasonable cost' should be considered, not only from the angle of the value of the property when reconditioning has been carried out, but also from the owner's point of view in regard to the expenditure incurred and the number of years it would take to reimburse him, having regard to the low rentals existing.

There are instances where owing to the bad external arrangement of the houses within a prescribed area; the narrowness or bad arrangement of the streets; the existence of obstructive buildings; in addition to sanitary defects and general disrepair, it may be considered that the best method of dealing with such houses would be to declare them as a "Clearance Area". Consideration might then be given to the question of re-development of the sites so cleared which in some cases would prevent open spaces being created thereby forming gaps in the formation of the villages and by building on these cleared sites would keep the villages intact and prevent spreading.

Summary of Housing Standards in each Parish

Parish	Total Number of Houses on Rate Book	Houses of a Reasonable Standard Categories 1-2	Houses Requiring Reconditioning Category 3	%	Unfit Houses Partial Reconstruction or Demolition Category 5	%
Aston le Walls ...	50	26	15	30.0	9	18.0
Aynho	118	13	52	44.0	53*	44.9
Boddington ...	121	21	41	33.8	59	48.7
Chacombe	96	33	26	27.1	37	38.5
Chipping Warden ...	102	13	28	27.4	61*	59.8
Croughton	127	30	48	37.8	49	38.6
Culworth	131	49	56	42.7	26	19.8
Edgcote	18	5	13	72.2		
Evenley	107	24	51	47.6	32	29.9
Eydon	119	16	56	47.0	47	39.5
Farthinghoe ...	94	25	41	43.6	28	29.8
Greatworth ...	125	31	51	40.8	43	34.4
Helmdon	171	34	73	42.7	64	37.4
Hinton in the Hedges	29	4	16	55.1	9	31.0
Kings Sutton ...	338	95	119	35.2	124	36.7
Marston St. Lawrence	44	10	19	43.2	15	34.1
Middleton Cheney ...	359	86	161	45.0	112	31.2
Moreton Pinkney ...	108	25	47	43.5	36	33.3
Newbottle	104	27	48	46.1	29	27.9
Radstone	27	4	23	85.1		
Sulgrave	109	24	48	44.0	37	34.0
Syresham	190	34	82	43.1	74	38.0
Thenford	25	3	17	68.0	5	20.0
Thorpe Mandeville	40	5	33	82.5	2	5.0
Warkworth ...	12	2	8	66.6	2	16.6
Whitfield	45	8	25	55.5	12	26.6
	2809	647 *or* 23.1%	1197 *or* 42.6%		965 *or* 34.3%	

* In addition to these figures there are 7 families at Aynho and 70 families at Chipping Warden living in temporary dwellings which were vacated by the Army and R.A.F.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

1 (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 2,006

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 4,433

2 (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 1,588

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 3,405

3 Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation —

4 Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 1,273

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICE.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 117

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

(a) **Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936** :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ... —

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—

(a) By Owners ... ... —

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... —

(b) **Proceedings under the Public Health Act, 1936** :—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 131

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—

(a) By Owners 14

(b) By local Authority in default of owners ... —

(c) **Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936** :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ... —

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ... —

(d) **Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936** :—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ... —

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... ... —

4. HOUSING ACT, 1936—PART 4—OVERCROWDING.

Present position not thoroughly investigated.

Statement of Housing Progress

(i.e., provision of new houses)

	Pre-war and Wartime Housing Position						*Post-war Housing Programme*					Total No. of Houses owned by Council
	Housing Act 1920.	Housing Act 1924.	Housing Act 1930.	Housing Acts 1935 and 1936.	War-time Agr. Houses.	Total.	Undeveloped Sites.	Developed Sites Houses not begun.	Houses on Tenders Apprd.	Houses under Construction.	Houses Completed.	
Aston le Walls				16		16						16
Aynho						—			6		6	6
Boddington ...		4			2	6	14					6
Chacombe ...			3	14		17			2		2	19
Chipping Warden						—			21	21		—
Croughton ...	6		2			8	12					8
Culworth ...	6		5	10		21	14					21
Edgcote ...						—						—
Evenley ...						—			11	11		—
Eydon	8			4		12	8					12
Farthinghoe ...	2		6		2	10						10
Greatworth ...	8		8			16	4					16
Helmdon ...	8			8		16			10		10	26
Hinton in the Hedges ...						—	6					—
Kings Sutton	18		8	40		66	24	26	14	14		66
Marston St. Lawrence	6					6			6		6	12
Middleton Cheney	20		22	30		72		30	26		10	82
Moreton Pinkney				8		8	8					8
Newbottle ...	6		12			18	12					18
Radstone ...						—						—
Sulgrave ...	8		6			14	6					14
Syresham ...	10		4	24		38		30				38
Thenford ...						—						—
Thorpe Mandeville	6					6			6		6	12
Warkworth ...						—						—
Whitfield ...						—	6					—
	112	4	76	154	4	350	114	86	102	46	40	390

The investigations of the home conditions of applicants for Council houses are made by the Sanitary Inspector who is particularly well equipped for this work which calls for no little diplomacy and understanding. Perhaps no one, more than he, makes such frequent and intimate contact with the social and environmental circumstances of the people.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Food Premises Generally—Due vigilance is kept over food premises. There were 356 visits made during the year.

The introduction of suitable ablution facilities for food operatives cannot be effected until a constant supply of water and proper drainage is available throughout the district.

Suitable and sufficient Sanitary Accommodation has been provided at the following public houses during the year, *viz* :—

Bell Inn and Chequers Inn	Helmdon.
Royal Oak Inn	Eydon.
Crewe Arms Inn	Hinton in the Hedges.

Most of these premises now possess satisfactory or improved sanitary accommodation.

Beer cellars and service bars are visited at least once yearly and kitchens inspected in every case where meals are prepared and served to the public.

Milk Supply and Control— Local Authorities have not yet been deprived of their powers of administering milk production at the farms.

Experience indicates that milk production generally may best be controlled locally provided that Local Authorities are given sufficient administrative powers and equip themselves with adequate and efficient staffs for the job.

Total number of Cowkeepers on Register at 31.12.47 214

58 produce designated milk, *i.e.*, (16 " Tuberculin Tested " ; 42 " Accredited ").

156 produce undesignated milk.

of these Cowkeepers the number who retail milk is 52.

12 retail designated milk, *i.e.* (5 " Tuberclin Tested," 7 " Accredited ").

40 retail undesignated milk.

The year brought 13 applications from persons requiring to carry on the trade of a cowkeeper in the district, which were granted. One producer was promoted to the designated standard of " Tuberculin Tested ".

During this period 15 Cowkeepers gave up business and have been removed from the Register.

The Sanitary Inspectors made 99 visits concerning clean milk production.

Results of 36 samples of milk taken in 1946 are as under :—

METHYLENE BLUE TEST

Good, 28 (77.8 p.c.) ; Moderate, 4 (11.1 p.c.) ; Bad, 4 (11.1 p.c.).

PHOSPHATASE TEST.

5 of the milk samples were also subjected to this test and found satisfactory, indicating efficient pasturisation.

RESULTS OF DESIGNATED MILK SAMPLES (i.e., "Tuberculin Tested" and "Accredited") TAKEN IN THE BRACKLEY RURAL DISTRICT BY THE NORTHANTS. COUNTY COUNCIL DURING THE YEAR 1947.

Parish	*Total Samples Taken*	*Methylene Blue Test*	
		Satisfactory	*Unsatisfactory*
Aston le Walls	21	19	2
Aynho	48	31	17
Boddington	33	28	5
Chacombe	10	9	1
Chipping Warden	27	21	6
Croughton	8	8	—
Culworth	9	5	4
Edgcote	11	10	1
Evenley	27	19	8
Eydon	12	11	1
Farthinghoe	32	24	8
Greatworth	84	66	18
Helmdon	36	31	5
Hinton-in-the-Hedges ...	12	10	2
Kings Sutton	70	48	22
Marston St. Lawrence ...	26	15	11
Middleton Cheney ...	10	9	1
Moreton Pinkney ...	—	—	—
Newbottle	—	—	—
Radstone	53	24	29
Sulgrave	17	7	10
Syresham	47	31	16
Thenford	—	—	—
Thorpe Mandeville ...	44	36	8
Warkworth	41	24	17
Whitfield	14	10	4
TOTALS	692	496	196

Comparative results of sampling (methylene blue test) over past 8 years :—

Year	*Total*	*Result*					
		Good		*Moderate*		*Bad*	
1940	66	25	40%	14	20%	27	40%
1941	73	40	55%	14	19%	19	26%
1942	54	31	55%	12	23%	11	22%
1943	53	34	64%	9	17%	10	19%
1944	53	37	70%	13	24%	3	5%
1945	46	15	34%	10	21%	21	45%
1946	31	24	77.5%	—	—	7	22.5%
1947	36	28	77.8%	4	11.1%	4	11.1%

Food Supervision—Following are details of food premises existing in the district together with the number of visits made during the year, viz :—

	No. in District	*No. of Visits*
No. of Provision Shops	50	67
No. of Butchers' Shops	13	49
No. of Dining Rooms	7	18
No. of Public Houses or Inns	41	76
No. of Bakehouses	12	36
No. of Registered Cowkeepers	214	99
No. of Ice Cream Shops	4	8
No. of Fishmongers	3	3

Food and Drugs Act, 1938—There are 17 registered premises in the district which are affected by this Act, viz :—

13 Butchers' Premises.

4 Ice Cream Premises.

Meat and Foods Inspection—The amount of food condemned during the year is set out in the following table.

Description	*Weight*	*Disease or Condition*
Tinned Peas	9 lb. 2½ oz.	Blown and perforated tins.
Tinned Jam	12 lb.	Blown, pierced and leaky tins.
Tinned Milk	2 lb. 14 oz.	Blown, perforated and leaky tins.
Tinned Sliced Beetroot	2 lb. 8 oz.	Blown, perforated and leaky tins.
Tinned Tomatoes ...	32 lb. 11 oz.	Blown and leaky tins.
Tinned Pilchards ...	2 lb. 13 oz.	Blown and leaky tins.
Tinned Salmon ...	7¾ oz.	Blown and leaky tin.
Tinned Hake	1 lb. 1 oz.	Blown, perforated and leaky tin.
Tinned Steak ...	1 lb.	Blown, perforated and leaky tin.
Tinned Cream ...	3 lb.	Leaky tins.
Tinned Pork Sausage	15 oz.	Pierced and leaky tin.
Tinned Meat Lunch ...	12 oz.	Blown tin.
Tinned Cut Beans ...	1 lb. 4 oz.	Pierced and leaky tin.
Tinned Kidney Soup	1 lb.	Blown tin.
Tinned Plums ...	1 lb. 4 oz.	Blown and leaky tin.
Tinned Cod Liver Paste	2 lb. 1¾ oz.	Blown and leaky tins.
Tinned Beans ...	5 lb.	Blown tins.
Sheeps Carcase ...	60 lb.	Mortification, pre-natal decomposition.
Sugar	4 cwt.	Impregnated with disinfectant or creosote.
Bottled Sweet Pickle	7 lb. 14 oz.	Bottles broken, contents mouldy.
	5 cwt. 35 lb. 12 oz.	

Cowsheds and Dairies.

Cowsheds cleansed and limewashed	19
Accumulation of manure removed	11
Impervious floor provided	13
Additional ventilation provided	7
Water supply improved	1
Dairy cleansed and limewashed	12
Proper dairy provided	2
Floors cleansed	—
Additional lighting provided	4
Yard surfaces cleansed	—
Proper facilities for sterilizing	—
Miscellaneous items	1

Slaughterhouses.

Slaughterhouse cleansed and limewashed	13
Offensive accumulations removed	4
Miscellaneous items	—

Bakehouses.

Bakehouse cleansed and limewashed	26
Benches cleansed	7
Miscellaneous items	1

Food Preparing Premises, Shops, Stalls, Etc.

Premises cleansed or limewashed	11
Benches etc., cleansed	4
Waste foodstuffs and refuse removed	5
Structural repairs carried out	10
Miscellaneous items	7

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

During the year, two major epidemics swept the country, namely Measles and Acute Poliomyelitis. Measles was much more prevalent in this district, the total number of cases notified being 49, compared with 13 in the previous year. There were 2 cases of Acute Poliomyelitis, both in the village of Evenley—notified in May and August.

There were 5 cases of Scarlet Fever during the year.

The following table sets forth the nature of the various diseases and shows the distribution of the cases throughout the parishes in the district.

INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES
(other than Tuberculosis)
IN INDIVIDUAL PARISHES
during the year, 1947.

Parish	*Scarlet Fever*	*Diphtheria*	*Pneumonia*	*Erysipelas*	*Measles*	*Whooping Cough*	*Polio Encephalitis*	*Polio Myelitis*	*Food Poisoning*	TOTALS
Aston-le-Walls	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	4
Aynho	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
Boddington	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Chalcombe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Charlton	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Chipping Warden ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Croughton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Culworth	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Edgcote	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Evenley	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	2	—	11
Eydon	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	3
Farthinghoe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Greatworth	1	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	8
Helmdon	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Hinton-in-the-Hedges ...	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	4
Kings Sutton	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	3
Marston St. Lawrence ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Middleton Cheney ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Moreton Pinkney ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Radstone	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	6
Sulgrave	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	8
Syresham	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	7
Thenford	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thorpe Mandeville ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Warkworth	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Whitfield	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
	5	—	3	—	49	8	—	2	1	68

INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Over past 8 years

(*Other than Tuberculosis*)

	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	Total
Scarlet Fever	35	25	18	13	12	10	7	5	125
Diphtheria	3	11	7	7	2	1	—	—	31
Enteric Fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	4	—	2	2	—	—	1	—	9
Pneumonia	4	5	4	3	4	2	1	3	26
Erysipelas	3	—	3	2	1	1	—	—	10
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	2	1	—	—	1	2	1	—	7
Measles	245	120	10	104	6	116	13	49	663
Whooping Cough	12	50	6	4	54	12	2	8	148
Food Poisoning	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Polio Encephalitis ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Polio Myelitis	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	3
Catarrhal Jaundice ...	—	—	1	3	5	—	—	—	9
Malaria	—	—	2	1	2	1	—	—	6
Chicken Pox	—	—	—	3	3	—	1	—	7
Jaundice	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	4
Dysentry	—	—	—	—	—	7	1	—	8
Mumps	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Amoebiasis	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
	311	213	54	144	92	154	27	68	1063

PERIOD DISTRIBUTION OF NOTIFIED CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES—1947.

A statement shewing the period distribution of the cases notified is given hereunder:

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Totals
Scarlet Fever ...	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	3
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	—	3	2	16	—	2	15	1	—	—	2	8	49
Whooping Cough...	—	—	1	—	1	4	1	—	1	—	—	—	8
Polio Myelitis ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Totals ...	3	4	4	16	2	7	16	2	2	—	2	10	68

Tuberculosis—All new cases of tuberculosis, respiratory or non-respiratory, are reported to the County Medical Officer of Health. Institutional care, when considered necessary, is arranged by the County Medical Officer of Health and County Tuberculosis Officer in the County Sanatoria.

The living conditions, etc., of persons subsequently discharged from these sanatoria are investigated by this Authority.

During the year 12 new cases of Tuberculosis were notified, 11 being of a respiratory nature and 1 non-respiratory. This shows an increase of 3 as against a total of 9 cases which were notified in 1946.

The following table gives the incidence of new cases with their age distribution.

New Cases during 1947

Age Periods Years	*New Cases*			
	Respiratory		*Non-Respiratory*	
	Male	*Female*	*Male*	*Female*
0 — 1	—	—	—	—
1 — 5	—	—	1	—
5 — 15	—	—	—	—
15 — 25	1	3	—	—
25 — 35	4	—	—	—
35 — 45	1	2	—	—
45 — 55	—	—	—	—
55 — 65	—	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—
Totals	6	5	1	—

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Immunisation in Relation to Child Population

Age at 31:12:46 Year Born	Under 1 1947	1 1946	2 1945	3 1944	4 1943	5-9 1938-42	10-14 1933-37	Total under 15
Number Immunised	3	98	92	128	101	580	667	1669
Estimated Mid-Year Population	934					1275		
Percentage Immunised	45%					98%		

MISCELLANEOUS.

Police Court Proceedings.

1. Court where heard. 2. Date of hearing. 3. Parties concerned.	Offence.	Result of Legal Action.
1. Middleton Cheney Petty Sessions. 2. 19/11/47. 3. Brackley R.D.C. v. C. W. Batchelor, Mannings Farm, Eydon.	Failure to abate nuisance under Public Health Act, 1936.	Nuisance Order made for abatement of nuisance within one month. Defendant to pay £1/1/0 Advocate's fee and costs of 8/-.

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